Food and drug testing laboratories

2121. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up Modern Food and Drug testing laboratories;

(b) if so, what is its number and where these laboratories are expected to be set up and at what cost; and

(c) the difference between the existing ones and the modern laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Under the World Bank Assisted Capacity Building Project, technical capabilities of the existing laboratories are being modernized and new modern Food and Drug Laboratories are also being set up in the country.

(b) New modern laboratories are being set up in the States of Jharkhand (Ranchi), Uttaranchal (Rudrapur), Chhattisgarh (Raipur) for analysis of both food and drugs and Sikkim for analysis of good. In additional nine Central Food Laboratories including six on Indo-Nepal Border are also being established under the project. The approximate cost of setting up these laboratories is Rs. 60.00 crores.

(c) The testing capacities of the existing Food and Drug Laboratories are being modernized to cope with the increasing number of samples and parameters to be tested; and to standardize testing systems and methods.

Package for doctors

2122. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward an improved package for doctors to prevent them from leaving various Government Institutes or settling outside the country for better opportunities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this is likely to be bought forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per recommendations of the 5th Central Pay Commission the retirement age of Government doctors was raised from 58 years to 60 years and

the pay scales including Non Practicing Allowances of Central Health Service Officers have been increased significantly. Besides, the rates of allowances like Conveyance Allowance, Research Pursuit Allowance, Post Graduate Allowance have also been revised in respect of different categories of doctors as applicable.

Dental Council of India

2123. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the Dental Council of India in the matter of dental education;

(b) the names of the present Chairman and other members;

(c) to what extent, the Dental Council of India has maintained and enhanced good standards for dental education in the country;

(d) whether adequate buildings and teaching staff are being demanded by the DCI for all colleges; and

(e) the steps proposed by Government to ensure that high standards are maintained by the Dental Council of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per the Dentists Act, 1948 (16 of 1948), the Dental Council of India has been constituted to regulate the profession of Dentistry.

(b) A list indicating the names of the President and other members of the Dental Council of India is given the Statement *(See* below*)*.

(c) to (e) Regulations providing norms for infrastructural, faculty and other facilities for establishment of new Dental College and starting of higher courses have been notified by DCI with the approval of the Government of India. The Council assesses the availability of these requirements before making its recommendations to the Government on any scheme for opening of Dental Colleges, increase in intake capacity and for starting higher courses of study for grant of permission by Central Government. The Council also conducts periodical inspections of recognised dental colleges to ensure that the standards laid down in the Regulations are maintained by them.